AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW
CHANGES MADE

Amend the following paragraph(s):

[0005] -- Another construction of a carrying bag for brass instruments

involves the use of a plate which can be made of hard fibers, wood, plastic or metal

and is placed or incorporated in the area of a front or end surface to extend

continuously from top to bottom. A carrying bag of this type is relatively heavy.

Moreover, while the incorporated plates may provide protection against impacts that

strike the respective end surface in a direction perpendicular to the plate, they afford

no protection against blows from the side. Thus, the rim of the bell of, e.g., a

trumpet placed into the carrying bag, is still exposed to a risk of damage by blows.--.

[0021] -- FIG. 4 is a plan view of an end surface of still another

embodiment of a carrying bag according to the present invention.--.

[0026] -- The stiffening frame 14 is comprised of an annular, closed end

piece 16, which is constructed in the form of a closed ring with an opening 13, and a

rim portion 18 which is arranged all-round about the end piece 16 and extends

inwards. Practice has shown that it is sufficient to provide the end piece 16 with a

width "a" of about 2 cm to 6 cm and the rim portion 18 with a width "b" of about 2 cm

to 6 cm, to thereby achieve the desired protection against blows from the side and

even from the back. Hereby, the provision of the rim portion 18 is especially

2

Docket No.: DIMBATH Appl. No.: 10/697,759

7

effective. In the non-limiting example of FIG. 1, the width "a" is 3 cm and the width

"b" is 3 cm. Dimensioning of the widths "a" and "b" is dependent on the size of the

bell of the brass instrument that is intended for transport.--.

[0027] -- Examples of a suitable material for the stiffening frame 14 include

plastic such as e.g. acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene copolymer (ABS), which is

relatively inexpensive and lightweight, or polypropylene or nylon. Plastics involve

involved here should be easy to make or to process, e.g. through deep-drawing in

the case of ABS. Other production methods that are conceivable include spraying.

In general, the stiffening frame 14 has substantial strength but yet is elastic enough

to satisfy the demanded protective function. Other material examples include light

metal, such as aluminum, or wood. A metal frame may be made through casting. A

wooden frame may be of single-piece configuration or may be made of multi-part

configuration.--.

[0028] -- In some applications, it may be sufficient to incorporate the

stiffening frame 14 inside the shell 2 in the area of the inner side of the end

surface 12 and to clamp it there. Of course, a permanent and tight securement of

the stiffening frame [[12]] 14 upon the inner wall surface or in the area of the corners

of the carrying bag 1 may be realized as well. The carrying stiffening frame 14 may

be secured by gluing, riveting, or threaded engagement. If replacement or exchange

is intended, the provision of a Velcro fastener is conceivable as well.--.

3

Docket No.: DIMBATH Appl. No.: 10/697,759

[0032] -- During transport of the brass instrument in the carrying bag 1 of FIG. 1, the end surface 12, upon which the bell <u>30</u> of the brass instrument bears against, extends vertically, whereas the end surface 12 of the shell 2 of the carrying bag 1b of FIG. 2 extends at an inclination in relation to the vertical. Still, in all embodiments of the carrying bag 1, 1a, 1b, the configuration of the incorporated stiffening frame 14 rests against the contour in the area of the edges or corners of the shell 2.--.